The Circus

When I think back over my life, certains things seem to stick + stay there. Like I know because I'm Color Blind if I see a Blue light + I turn my head I still see Blue for a few seconds. But then it all disapears But my thoughts will keep popping up. Mabey its the same thing because they became indelaby. I just flashed back when I was nine years old. On another article I told you me + Junior left with the Circus because we had jobs. Junior Set up the Wooden Milk Bottles + I set up the Cloth Dolls. If you didn't read it before the Song 'Begin The Beguine played all Night long.

Hark Hark the Dogs do Bark
The Circus is comeing to town
Some in Rags Some in Tags
and the Kids are here for the Clowns.

'Nine Teen Thirty Four during the great Depression' There was no T V - very little Radio - And very few people had Newspaper delivery. So how did we know the 'Circus' was comeing to town. Most Telephone Polls had a notice on them + Most Store were givin a Card-Board notice in there front windows. Thats how we found out. When that happened every kid for blocks around would meet the Train off Monument St + to get a job ~~coming~~ carreing Water for the Ela-phants. or working in general. Then we would get Free passes for a side show

or something. You never got passes for the big 'Top'. To get in there would cost about Seventy Five Cents. The Big Top as it was called was one & a half Foot Ball fields long & over Two Hundred Feet Wide. It's a shame our kids will never see it again. They stopped setting it up Fifty Two years ago. The Canvas was so big, it took up a whole trailer longer than your House. Every big thing was pulled by Elephants. The Train would be from Monument St to Pulaski Hy. Near Haven St. about two Blocks long. Saw Dust & Wood shaving were all aroun & in the Big Top. The Workers were called 'Roustabouts' & think Elvis made a Movie about that. Can you see two little Boys - Nine & Ten leaving with th Circus at now. I dont know how we ever got paid - Probaly with Hot Dogs & Soda. My memory is not to good about where we went, but I think it was Phil. I know they sent us home on a Bus. Back in thos days it seemed Carnivals & Block Parties were all the time. You know when you were a kid it seemed to rain & snow all th time. But it's probaly about the same as now. One time they had a Block party on Biddle St. They had a raised platform where any body could perform. My Brother Junior was about Eleven & he got on the Stage & sang - 'Goodie Goodie'. The first lines were. So you met some one who

set
put you back on your Ear. "Goodie Goodie". Any way he ~~one~~ won a Box of Candy. I had a Nickle in my pocket & I saved it all night. Finnaly I walked up to the Polett Wheel & put my Nickel on # Seventeen. I cant remember if other people were playing or not. Then the Operater spun the wheel, it ~~out~~ went around & around & finnaly stoped on # Seventeen. I won a Box of Chocolates. I think I ran all the way Home to give it to my "Mother". How can you ever forget something like that. I think I was Ten.

Brother Martin